with the Chief Justice of that High Court. The Government has, therefore, addressed letters to the Chief Ministers of the States and the Chief Justices of the High Courts, from time to time, requesting them to locate persons from the Bar belonging to Scheduled Castes, Scheduled Tribes, other Backward Classes, Minorities and amongst Women who are suitable for appointment as High Court Judges.

Kimberlite pipes in A.P.

1383. SHRI NANDI YELLAIAH: Will the Minister of MINES be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Geological Survey of India (GSI) has identified 110 kimberlite pipes (diamond-bearing formations) in Andhra Pradesh;

(b) the number of areas of the State identified, so far as kimberlitic areas and the details of findings in these areas;

(c) whether Government is proposing to amend the National Mining Policy for allowing the transfer of mining leases;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF MINES (DR. T. SUBBARAMI REDDY): (a) Geological Survey of India (GSI) has identified 62 kimberlite pipes in the State of Andhra Pradesh.

(b) Two major kimberlite fields, namely, Wajrakarur Kimberlite Field (WKF) in Anantapur district and Narayanpet Kiberlite field (NKF) in Mahaboobnagar district have been discovered. 29 kimberlite pipes have been located in WKF of which 18 pipes are diamondiferous and 24 kimberlite pipes have been located in NKF. In between WKF and NKF, 9 kimberlite pipes have been located.

(c) Provision for transfer of mining leases already exists in Mineral Concession Rules, 1960.

(d) and (e) Does not arise in view of (c) above.

Agreement for exploration of mineral resources

1384. SHRI S.S. AHLUWALIA: Will the Minister of MINES be pleased to state:

(a) the salient details of agreements executed with domestic and foreign companies for exploration and harnessing of mining resources in various States during the last five years, year-wise;

(b) the details of economic benefits estimated to be accuring, *inter-alia,* to the State exchequer, consequent to these mining activities;

(c) the nature and intensity of consultations held, if any, with the respective State Governments and other stake holders, in each case;

(d) the details of tribal/rural habitations to be subjected to displacement due to consequent implementation of these mining licenses, State-wise; and

(e) the programmes evolved, if any, for their rehabilitation and livelihood?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF MINES (DR T. SUBBARAMI REDDY): (a) Ministry of Mines has not entered into any agreement with domestic or foreign company for exploration and exploitation of minerals. However, Mineral Exploration Corporation Limited (MECL) a public sector undertaking under administrative control of Ministry of Mines has executed Memorandum of Understanding [MoU] /Agreement with 29 domestic companies for carrying out exploration activities involving drilling and exploratory/ developmental mining and associated activities as per details below:

Activity	2006-07	2005-06	2004-05	2003-04	2002-03
Drillin		2	6	2	10
g	4	1	1	1	2
Mining		3	7	3	12
Total	4				

(b) The details of economic benefits accruing to the State exchequer is not centrally maintained.

(c) The MoUs/Agreements by MECL have been executed after due consultation with the companies.

(d) and (e) The Department of Land Resource, Ministry of Rural Development has formulated a revised National Rehabilitation and Resettlement Policy, 2007 which has been published on 31st October 2007 and any likely prospective mining in the explored areas would be guided by this policy.

Setting up of mining industry in Mayurbhanj

1385. SHRI BHAGIRATHI MAJHI: Will the Minister of MINES be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal for setting up of mine related industries around the mines dominated areas, especially in Mayurbhanj in Orissa;

(b) if so, the details in this regard;

(c) if not, whether Government has any proposal pending for renewal of license or lease to those companies, which are already in this profession of extracting/exploring ore and to export it abroad;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) if not, whether Government would keep the proposal before the companies to establish such industries before taking the lease?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF MINES (DR. T.SUBBARAMI REDDY): (a) and (b) Ministry of Mines has no proposal for setting up of mines related industries around the mines dominated areas, especially in Mayurbhanj District in Orissa.

(c) to (e) Approval of Central Government is required only for renewal of mineral concession for minerals in Part 'A' and 'B' of First Schedule to MMDR Act, 1957 and no proposal for renewal of mineral concession in favour of any company in the State of Orissa is pending in the Ministry of Mines. The renewal of mining lease is considered as per provisions of MMDR Act, 1957 and Mineral Concession, Rules, 1960, and there is no such standard mandatory condition in the said provisions for setting up of mineral based industry while renewing the mining lease.